

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-15 and 17-24 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3 and 11-14 are amended, and claims 23 and 24 are added. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiners Shingles and Kang in the November 10, 2005 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-9, 11-15 and 17-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,894,306 to Ichimura and U.S. Patent No. 5,983,263 to Rothrock et al. (Rothrock), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,987,256 to Wu et al. (Wu). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Ichimura does not teach or suggest a meeting system and an information storage medium including "each meeting data reproducing apparatus reproducing meeting data that includes fixed presentation data and supplied-data, and the presentation data including at least one pointer indicating an address of the supplied-data so that a portion of the meeting data may be reproduced by specifying at least one of a particular presenter, a meeting participant and time," as recited in independent claims 1-3, and similarly recited in independent claims 11-14.

As discussed during the interview, Ichimura teaches an electronic meeting device 10 including a computer comprising a data record/playback device, the electronic meeting board displaying data representing the background of each user-input data on the screen in addition to the user-input data inputted by the user. See col. 3, lines 59-61. Ichimura also teaches that the data record/playback device may detect a state that includes at least one of circumstantial information and eventual information about a moment when the user input is detected. See

col. 3, line 67 – col. 4, line 3; and col. 6, lines 41-67. Further, Ichimura teaches that two user inputs are received and consecutively displayed. See col. 10, line 65 - col. 11, line 6.

Ichimura also teaches that a user may then specify one out of a plurality of pen-input data displayed on a display section. See col. 12, lines 62-63. Based on displayed pen-input data specified/selected by a user, Ichimura teaches that only a section that was received immediately before and after the pen-input data was received may be played back. See col. 12, lines 64-67. From audio and image signals entered immediately before and after the pen-input data was entered, playback can be performed beginning with a section of the audio and image signal when a speaker starts a statement. See col. 13, lines 1-4. Therefore, a portion of a previously recorded presentation associated with a displayed pen-input data may be played back only when the displayed pen-input data is specified/selected by a user.

Ichimura does not teach or suggest that a portion of the previously recorded presentation includes at least one pointer indicating an address of additional data input/supplied by a user, e.g., input supplied via a microphone. Therefore, Ichimura does not teach or suggest that a portion of the previously recorded presentation may be reproduced or played back by specifying at least one of a particular presenter, meeting participant and time. For at least the reasons discussed above, Ichimura does not teach or suggest the virtual machine and the information storage medium set forth in claims 1-3 and 11-14.

The Office Action asserts that Wu and Rothrock remedy the deficiencies of Ichimura. Wu teaches a system for processing an first data set specified by an object specifying language, such as JAVA, that relies on relative positioning, and translating the first data set to a second data set in an intermediate object language suitable for rendering by a target device. See Abstract. Rothrock teaches, in Fig. 1, a method and apparatus for transmitting images from a first processing system to a second processing system over a communication link via an IEEE-1394 bus. See Abstract.

However, neither Wu nor Rothrock teaches or suggests that a portion of a previously recorded presentation includes at least one pointer indicating an address of additional data input/supplied by a user, and that a portion of the previously recorded presentation may be reproduced or played back by specifying at least one of a particular presenter, meeting participant and time. Because neither Wu nor Rothrock remedy the deficiencies of Ichimura discussed above, Ichimura, Wu and Rothrock do not, alone or in combination, teach or suggest the virtual machine and the information storage medium set forth in claims 1-3 and 11-14.

In the virtual machine and the information storage medium set forth in claims 1-3 and 11-14, meeting data includes presentation data prepared in advance and additional variable data that varies depending upon a situation of a meeting. For example, in the exemplary embodiment of Fig. 4, meeting data 44 may include presentation data 1420 and additional variable data 1440. See page 17, lines 28-30 of the present specification. The presentation data 1420 may include a pointer indicating an address of additional image data thereby allowing any desired part of the meeting data 44 to be read by a user specifying a chapter number, a section number, and/or a page number. See page 18, lines 10-16 of the present specification. Further, any desired part of the meeting data 44 may also be reproduced by specifying a particular presenter 1000, meeting participant 1002 and/or time. See page 21, lines 11-16 of the present specification. Ichimura, Wu and Rothrock do not, alone or in permissible combination, teach or suggest such features or provide such advantages.

Therefore, claims 1-3 and 11-14 would not have been rendered obvious by Ichimura, Wu and Rothrock, alone or in permissible combination. Claims 4-9, 15 and 17-22 variously depend from claims 1-3 and 11-14, and thus also would not have been rendered obvious by Ichimura, Wu and Rothrock, alone or in permissible combination. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

- In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-9, 11-15 and 17-24 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Request for Continued Examination

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